

**REMARKS**

This is a preliminary amendment before the first Office Action.

Claims 1-15 are pending herein. Claim 1 is the only independent claim.

Claims 3, 5-7, and 9-11 are amended to eliminate multiple dependencies, and have been made singularly dependent upon independent Claim 1.

The Abstract is amended to correct inadvertent grammatical errors.

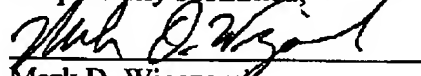
**CONCLUSION**

Applicant submits Claims 1-15 are in condition for examination, early notification of which is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's attorney at (562-244-5671) in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

**FEES**

If there are any fees due and owing in respect to this amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge such fees to deposit account number 50-1047.

Respectfully submitted,



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Marjorie Scariati

(Printed name of Person Mailing Correspondence)

Marjorie Scariati  
(Signature)